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FILED

BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

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Susan Gartland Executive Director

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

Administrative Action

COLLEEN (SHEERIN) PRINCE, P.T. License No. 40QA00624600

FINAL CONSENT ORDER

TO PRACTICE PHYSICAL THERAPY IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy (the "Board") upon the filing on November 22, 2005 of an Administrative Complaint by the Attorney General. The Administrative Complaint alleged that the Respondent, Colleen (Sheerin) Prince, P.T., violated N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), (d), (e), (h), (k) and -(f), N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4, N.J.A.C. 13:39A-3.1, 13:39A-3.4(c), 13:39A-3.6(a), and 13:39A-3.8(a)(6), -(9) and -(10). Respondent filed an Answer dated January 6, 2006, denying the substantive allegations of the Attorney General's Complaint.

Having reviewed the relevant documentation and Respondent's testimony before the Board, the Board finds that Respondent engaged

in professional misconduct, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), and further, violated N.J.A.C. 13:39A-3.1, 13:39A-3.6 and 13:39A-3.8(a)(8). The patient record of V.D. and Respondent's testimony showed that Respondent consistently billed for manual therapy for this patient when she actually provided therapeutic exercise. Manual therapy is reimbursed at a higher rate, therefore, it appears that the records falsified the activity which was provided for the purpose of obtaining payment for services which were not rendered. The Board finds that the billing in this case, which averaged \$370 to \$400 a visit, was excessive as the nature of the services provided often did not require skilled intervention by a physical therapist. The Board also finds that the patient record failed to contain a subjective history for the knee and failed to include any changes or modifications to the treatment. The plan of care did not establish measurable goals and failed to include a discharge summary.

The parties now wishing to resolve this matter without further proceedings and the Board finding the within disposition to be adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and it appearing that good cause exists for the entry of the within Order,

IT IS on this 27 Hday of February, 2007; ORDERED:

1. Respondent shall hereby cease and desist from maintaining

incomplete patient records.

- 2. The Respondent, Colleen (Sheerin) Prince, P.T., is hereby reprimanded for charging excessive fees, billing for services not provided, overutilization of treatment in the absence of objective or functional deficits and failing to maintain a complete and accurate patient record.
- 3. Respondent's license to practice physical therapy in the State of New Jersey shall be suspended for a period of six (6) months, all of which time is to be served as a period of active suspension, commencing upon the entry of this Order.
- 4. Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$1,164, within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Order. Payment shall be delivered to Executive Director Susan Gardland and made by certified check or money order payable to the State Board of Physical Therapy, P.O. Box 45014, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Failure to make timely payment will constitute a violation of this Order.
- 5. Prior to application for active status of her license, Respondent shall complete UMDNJ Medical Record Keeping Course and shall supplement the course with relevant readings in *The Guide for Physical Therapist Practice*, 2nd Edition. Respondent shall provide to the Board written confirmation of satisfactory completion of the course from the sponsoring entity, prior to application for active status of her license.

STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

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Chairperson

I have read the within Order. I understand the Order and I agree to be bound by its terms and conditions. I hereby consent to the entry of this Order.

Colleen Prince, P.T.

Dated:

We hereby consent to the form and entry of this Order.

Prince & Portnoi

Attorneys for the Respondent

By:

Andiew S. Prince, Esq.